

REMARKS

Prior to action on the merits, the present amendment adds claims 38 and 39 and makes a minor change in the specification. As such, claims 1-39 are currently pending in this application.

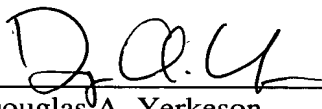
The application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Consideration of the claims leading to their allowance and passage of the application to issuance is respectfully requested.

If necessary, please consider this a Petition for Extension of Time to effect a timely response. Please charge any additional fees or credits to the account of Bose McKinney & Evans, LLP Deposit Account No. 02-3223.

In the event that there are any questions related to these amendments or to the application in general, the undersigned would appreciate the opportunity to address those questions directly in a telephone interview to expedite the prosecution of this application for all concerned.

Respectfully submitted,

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